1 What is claimed is:

2 ~~SUB A2 1.~~ A method for utilizing a custom playlist to be played by a digital audio/visual

3 ~~actuator device, comprising the steps of:~~

4

5 ~~creating the custom playlist on an external device; and~~

6

7 ~~providing the custom playlist to the digital audio/visual actuator device.~~

8

9 2. The method of claim 1, wherein creating the custom playlist comprises the

10 steps of:

11

12 obtaining information about a plurality of tracks that are available to be added

13 to the custom playlist;

14

15 selecting one or more tracks of the plurality of tracks to be added to the

16 custom playlist;

17

18 adding the one or more tracks to the custom playlist by saving an identifier of

19 each track of the one or more tracks to a playlist file; and

20

21 saving the playlist file.

22

3.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of obtaining information about the plurality of tracks comprises the external device receiving information about the plurality of tracks from the digital audio/visual actuator device.

4.   The method of claim 3, wherein the external device receives information about the plurality of tracks from a digital storage device in the digital audio/visual actuator device.

5.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of obtaining information about the plurality of tracks comprises the external device receiving information about the plurality of tracks from an external information source having a two-way communications link with the external device.

6.   The method of claim 5, wherein the external information source is the Internet.

7.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of selecting the one or more tracks to be added to the custom playlist comprises searching the plurality of tracks for a characteristic.

8.   The method of claim 2, wherein the identifier is a track index of the track.

9.   The method of claim 2, wherein prior to saving the playlist file, comprising the additional step of:

deleting any track of the custom playlist that is no longer to be in the custom playlist.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein providing the custom playlist to the digital audio/visual actuator device comprises the steps of:

downloading a playlist file that contains the custom playlist from the external device to the digital audio/visual actuator device over a communications link between the external device and the digital audio/visual actuator device; and

saving the playlist file to a non-volatile memory of the digital audio/visual actuator device.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the communications link is a cable.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the communications link is a wireless connection.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein the communications link is an infa-red connection.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein the communications link is a two-way communications link.

15.   The method of claim 1, wherein after providing the custom playlist to the

digital audio/visual actuator device comprising the further step of:

       saving the custom playlist in a non-volatile memory of the digital audio/visual

actuator device.

SUB A4 16.   The method of claim 15, wherein after saving the custom playlist comprising

the further step of:

       modifying the custom playlist to create a modified custom playlist.

                    15   14
17.   The method of claim 16, wherein after modifying the custom playlist

comprising the further step of:

       saving the modified custom playlist.

SUB A5 18.   The method of claim 15, wherein after saving the custom playlist comprising

the further step of:

       playing the custom playlist on the digital audio/visual actuator device.

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18. The method of claim 18, wherein the step of playing the custom playlist is actuated by a remote control device in communication with the digital audio/visual actuator device.

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20. The method of claim 18, wherein playing the custom playlist comprises the steps of:

      a. obtaining an entry from the custom playlist that corresponds to a track of the custom playlist to be played;

      b. identifying the track by the entry from the custom playlist;

      c. playing the track on the digital audio/visual actuator device; and

      d. repeating steps a-c above for each track of the custom playlist until each track of the custom playlist is played.

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21. The method of claim 1, wherein after providing the custom playlist to the digital audio/visual actuator device comprising the further step of:

      playing the custom playlist on the digital audio/visual actuator device.

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22.   The method of claim 21, wherein the step of playing the custom playlist is actuated by a remote control device in communication with the digital audio/visual actuator device.

21   19
23.   The method of claim 21, wherein playing the custom playlist comprises the steps of:

        a. obtaining an entry from the custom playlist that corresponds to a track of the custom playlist to be played;

        b. identifying the track by the entry from the custom playlist;

        c. playing the track on the digital audio/visual actuator device;

        d. repeating steps a-c above for each track of the custom playlist until each track of the custom playlist is played.

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24.   The method of claim 1, wherein after creating the custom playlist on an external device, comprising the further step of:

        modifying the custom playlist to create a modified custom playlist.

23   22
25.   The method of claim 24, wherein after modifying the custom playlist comprising the further step of:

1

2   saving the modified custom playlist.